viz. 6531/6532 Yesvantpur-Ajmer Garib Nawaz Express (weekly) and 9269/9270 Porbandar-Motihari Express (weekly) have been introduced.

(c) In Budget speech 2005-2006, target for completion of Palanpur-Samukhiyali was mentioned and the same was completed during the year.

(d) The ongoing projects are being progressed as per the availability of resources.

Rail Land Development Authority

2719. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large portion of the land under the Railway remains unutilized;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(c) whether much of such property is encroached;

(d) if so, the details of such property;

(e) whether Government propose to set up a 'Railways Land Development Authority' which through public private partnership, is envisaged to develop the Railways' surplus land; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) No, Sir. Only 10.4 per cent of total land holding of 4.31 lakh hectare, which is 44894 hectare of land is vacant and is required for Railway's operational uses largely.

(b) Railways do not maintain State-wise details. However, Zone-wise details of vacant railway land are as under.

Railway	Vacant land (in Hectare)
Central	2478
East Coast	1355
East Central	5773
Eastern	1547

Railway	Vacant land (in Hectare)
North Central	738
North Eastern	5923
North East Frontier	2435
Northern	2919
North Western	964
South Central	4248
South East Central	3391
South Eastern	84
Southern	2297
South Western	2871
West Central	488
Western	7383
TOTAL :	44894

(c) and (d) No, Sir. Out of total land holding of 4.31 lakh hectare, only about 2000 hectare of land is under encroachment.

(e) and (f) Yes, Sir. In order to give greater thrust to the commercial use of vacant railway land/air space, Railways has decided to set up a separate Authority namely the Rail Land Development Authority, through an amendment to the Railways Act, 1989 to undertake all tasks related to property development on railway land/air-space. The Authority has been constituted with effect from 1st November, 2006.

Base kitchen of Railways

2720. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the base kitchen of Railways, zone-wise and location wise;

(b) whether the Indian Railways Catering and Tourism Corporation has